An Institutional Perspective to Rescue Scholarly Orphans

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The Scholarly Orphans project
is funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

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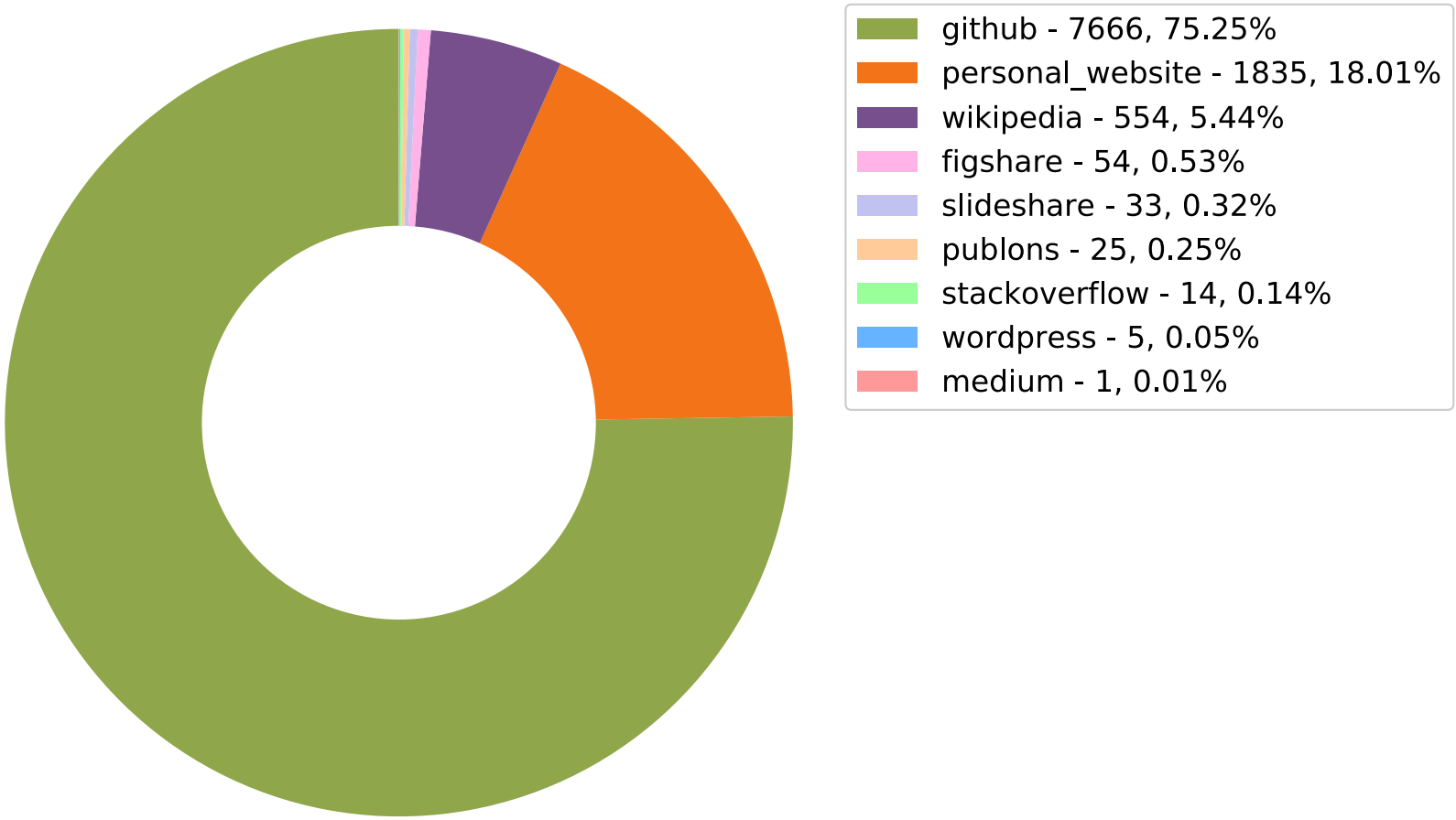
Knowing this would be great!


github - 7666, 75.25%
personal_website - 1835, 18.01%
wikipedia - 554, 5.44%
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medium - 1, 0.01%

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Research and Research Communication on the Web

- Researchers are increasingly using a variety of web platforms for collaboration and communication
- Researchers deposit artifacts in web platforms
- The researchers' institutions are in the dark
- Uncertainty regarding long-term access of scholarly artifacts
- Scholarly artifacts are not systematically archived

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Scholarly Orphans Project

How to faithfully capture Scholarly Orphans for long-term archiving?

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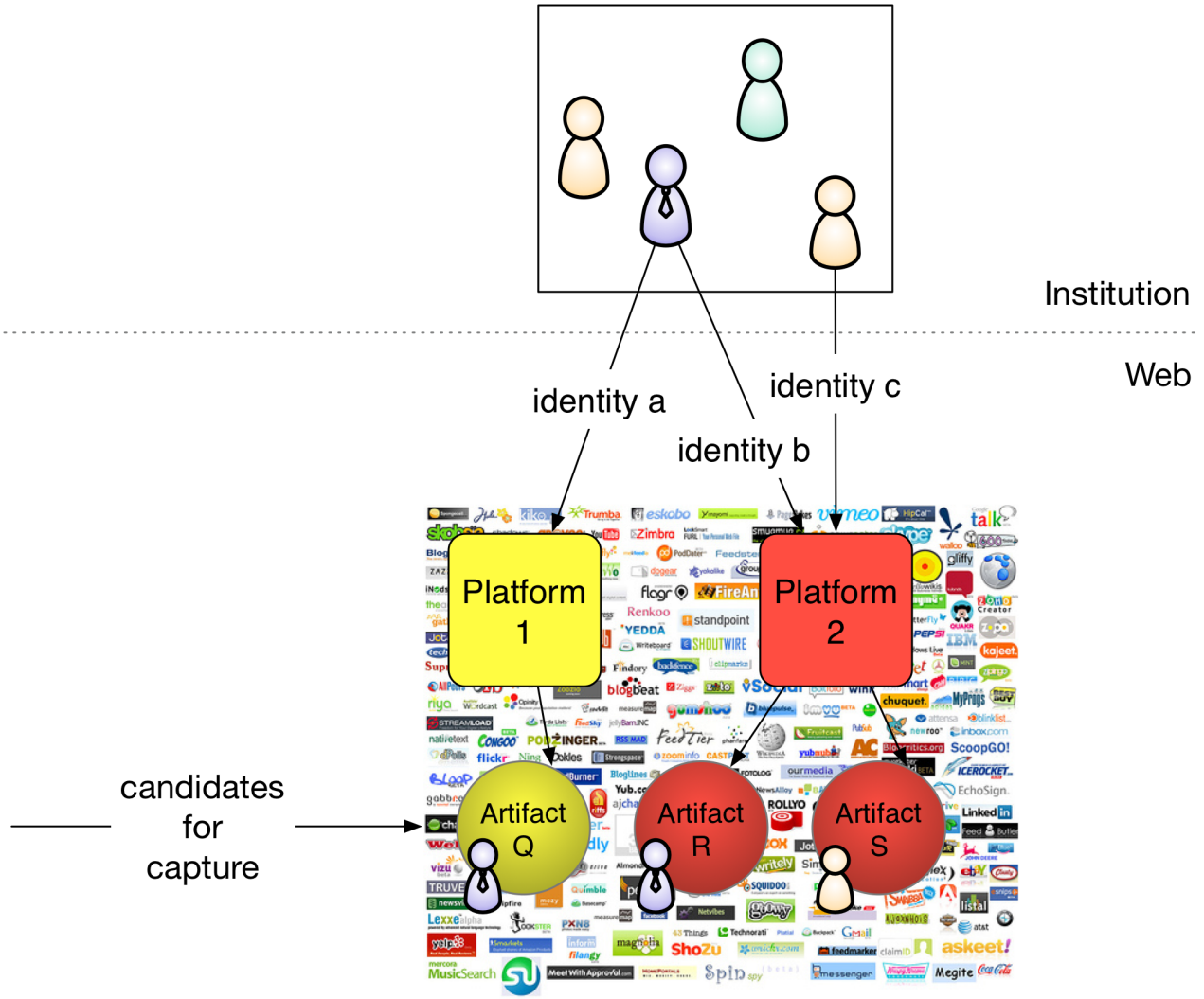
An Institutional Perspective



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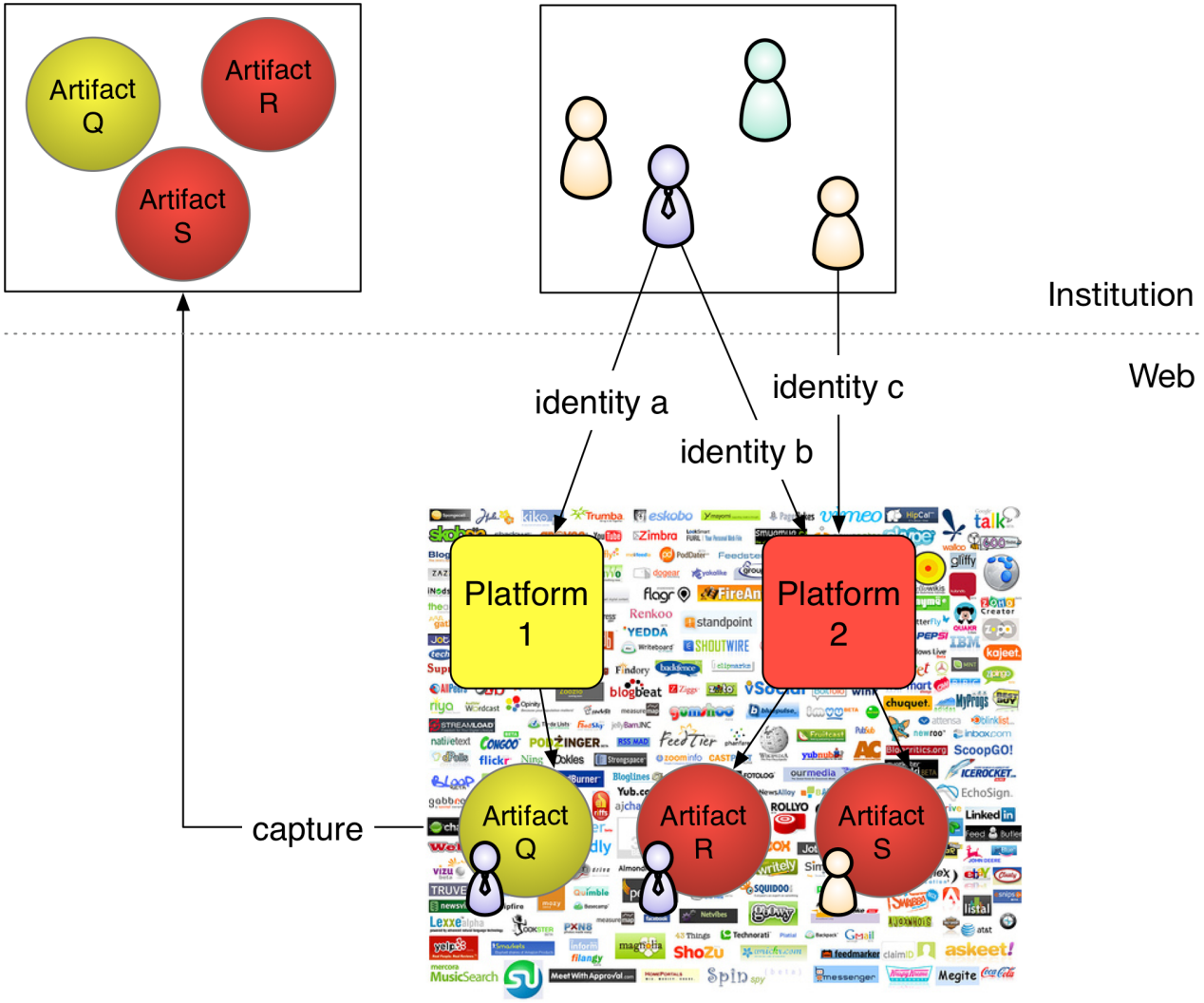
A Web Archiving Perspective



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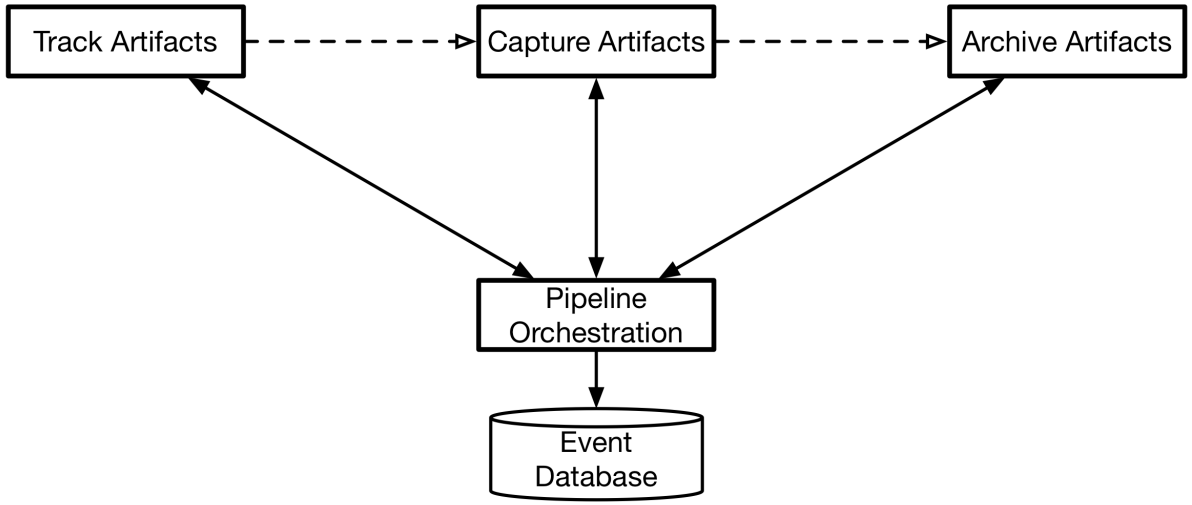
Prototype Pipeline



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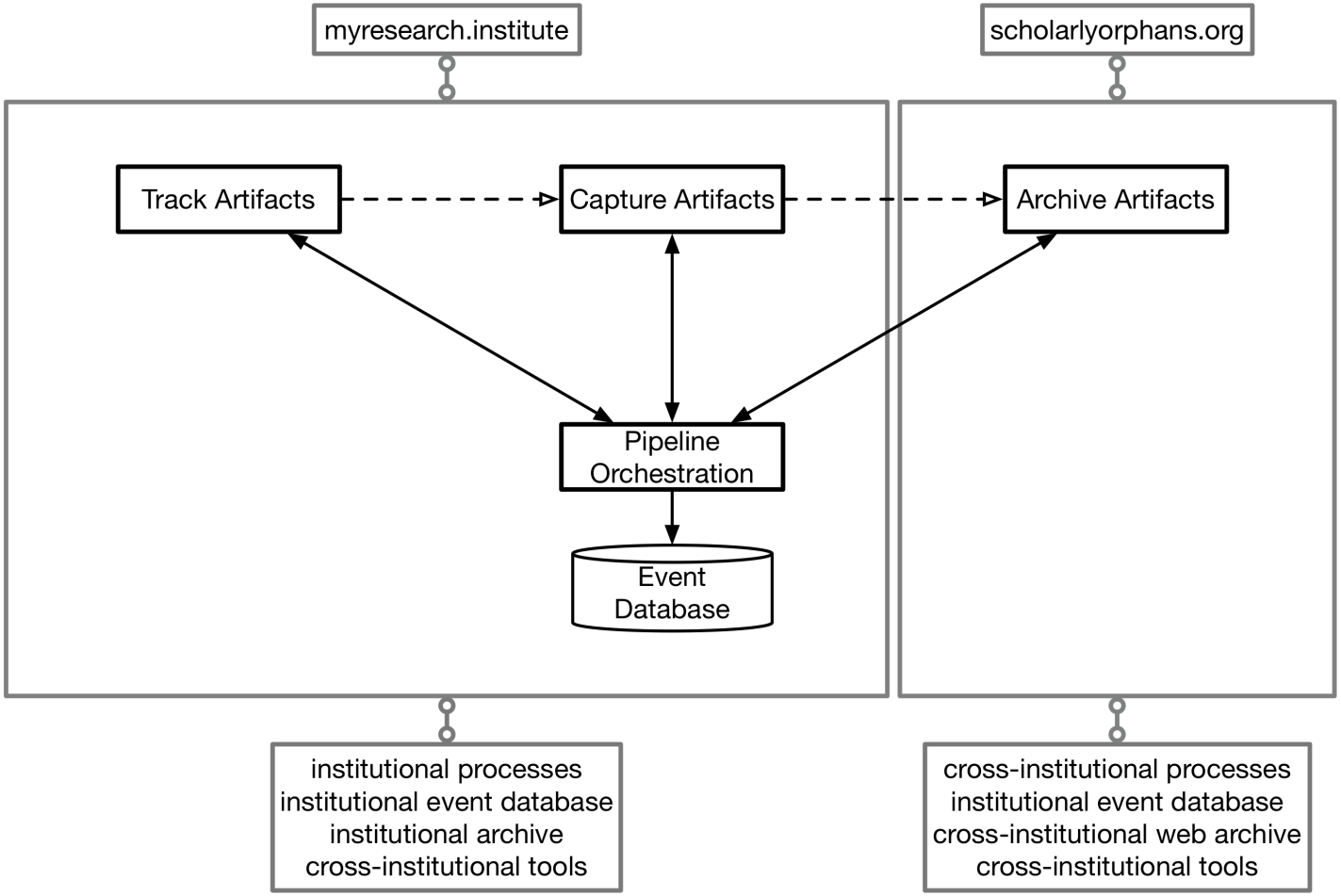
Pilot - myresearch.institute



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myresearch.institute - Researchers

- Uniquely identified by ORCIDs
- Web identities in multiple portals
- Create various types of artifacts

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myresearch.institute - Portals

- Tracking started August 27 2018
- Tracking artifacts created starting August 1 2018
- ~17,000 artifacts tracked to date for all 16 researchers

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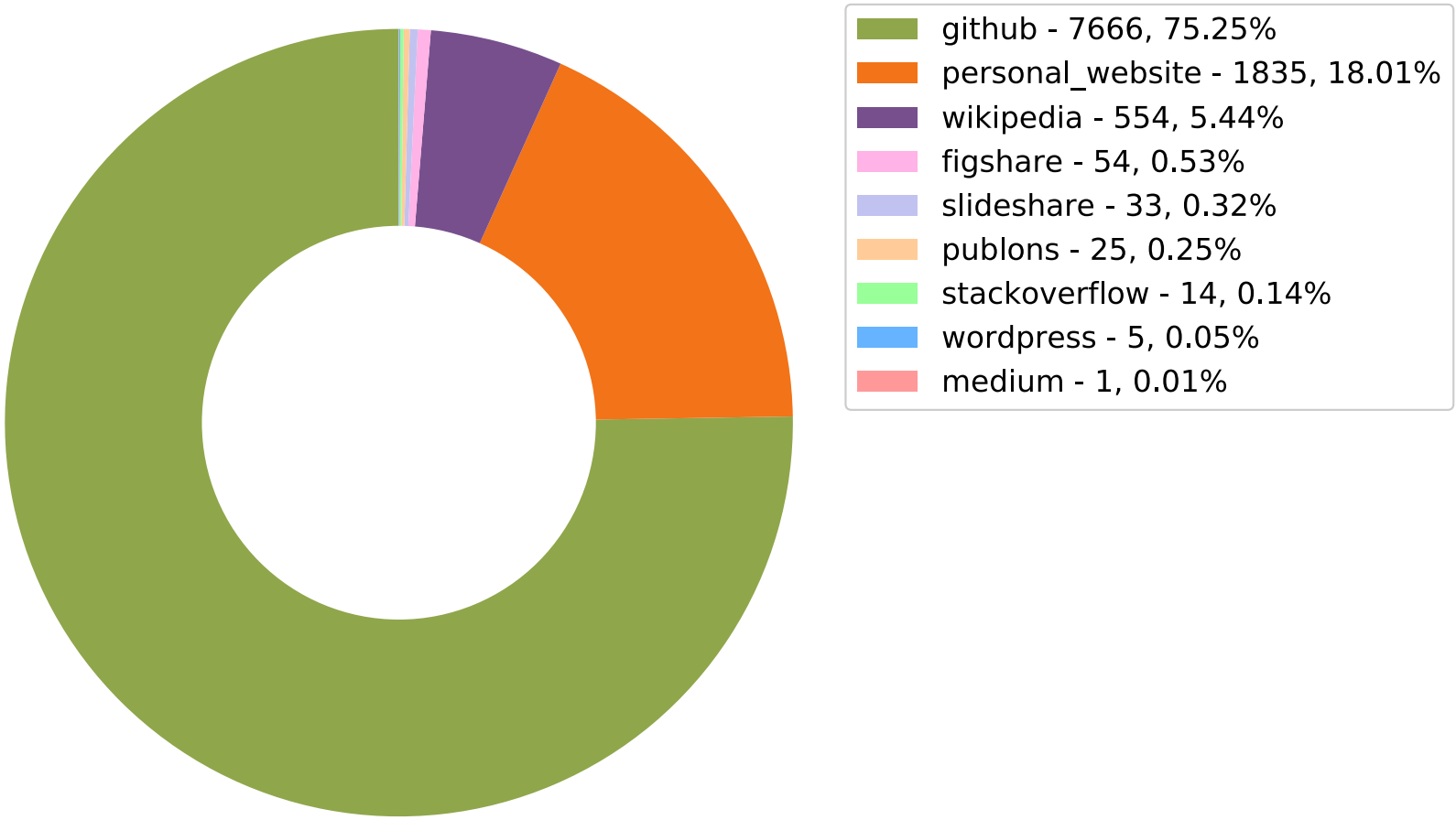
myresearch.institute – Statistics

Scholars' Productivity Portal Distribution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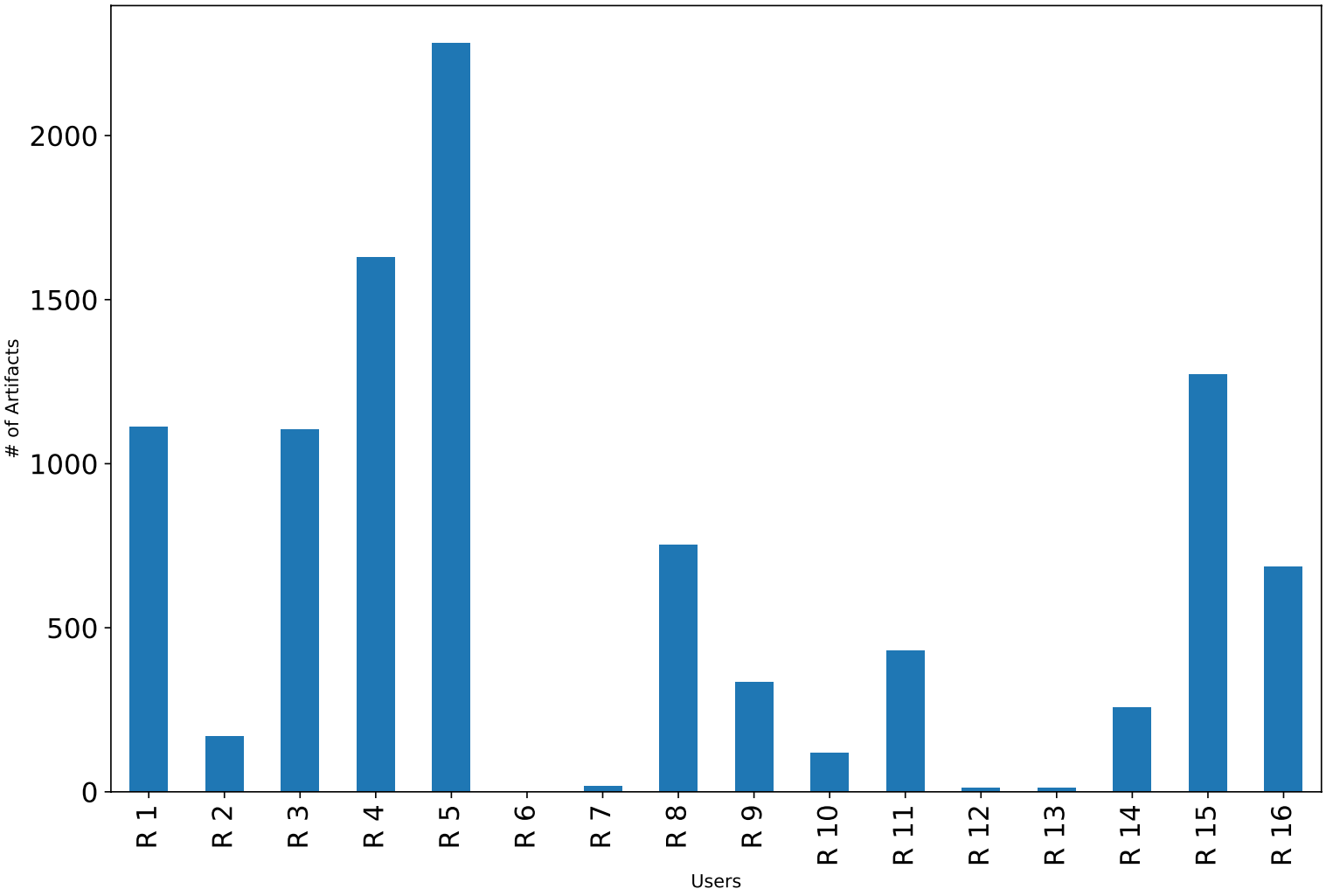
Researcher Contributions



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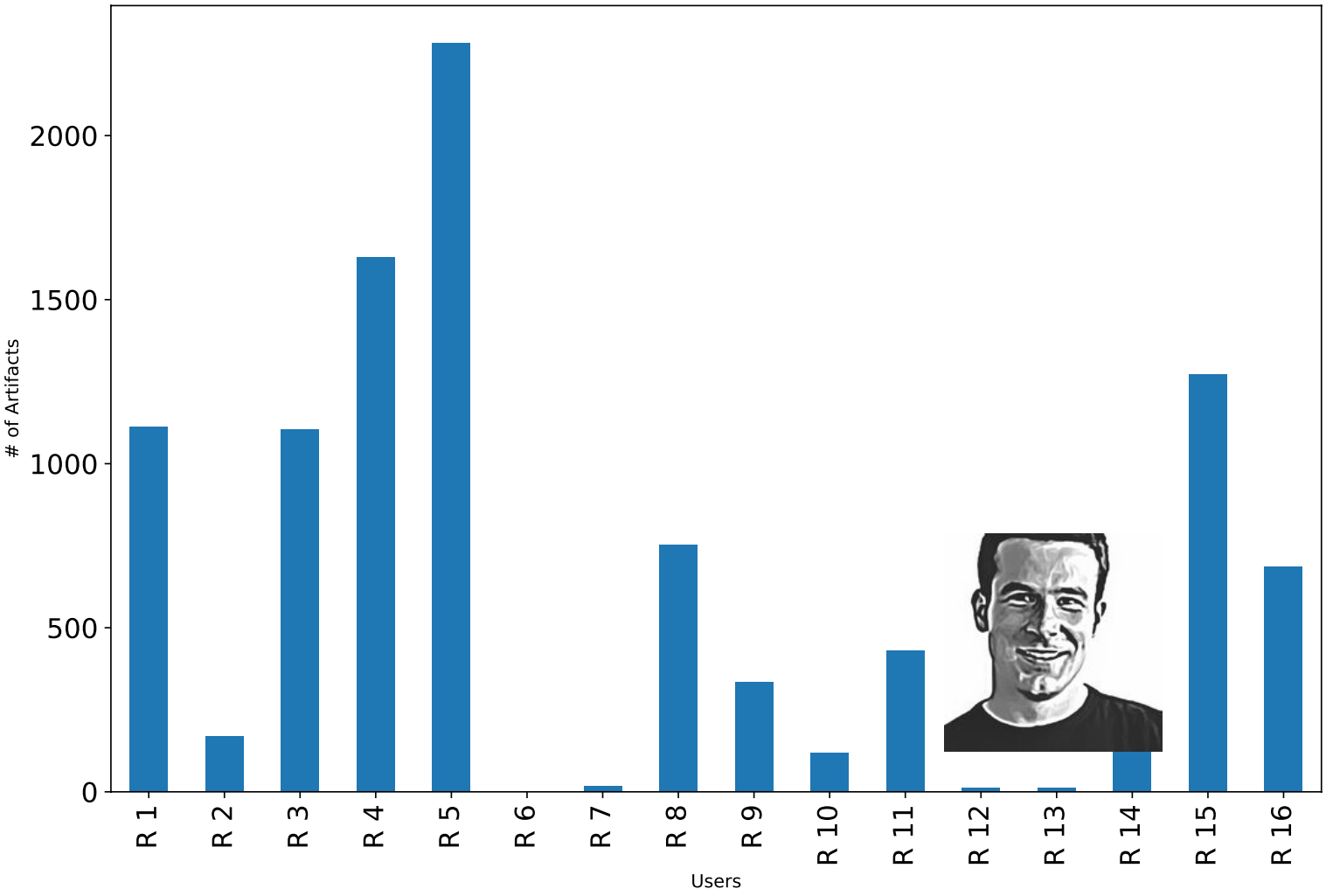
Researcher Contributions



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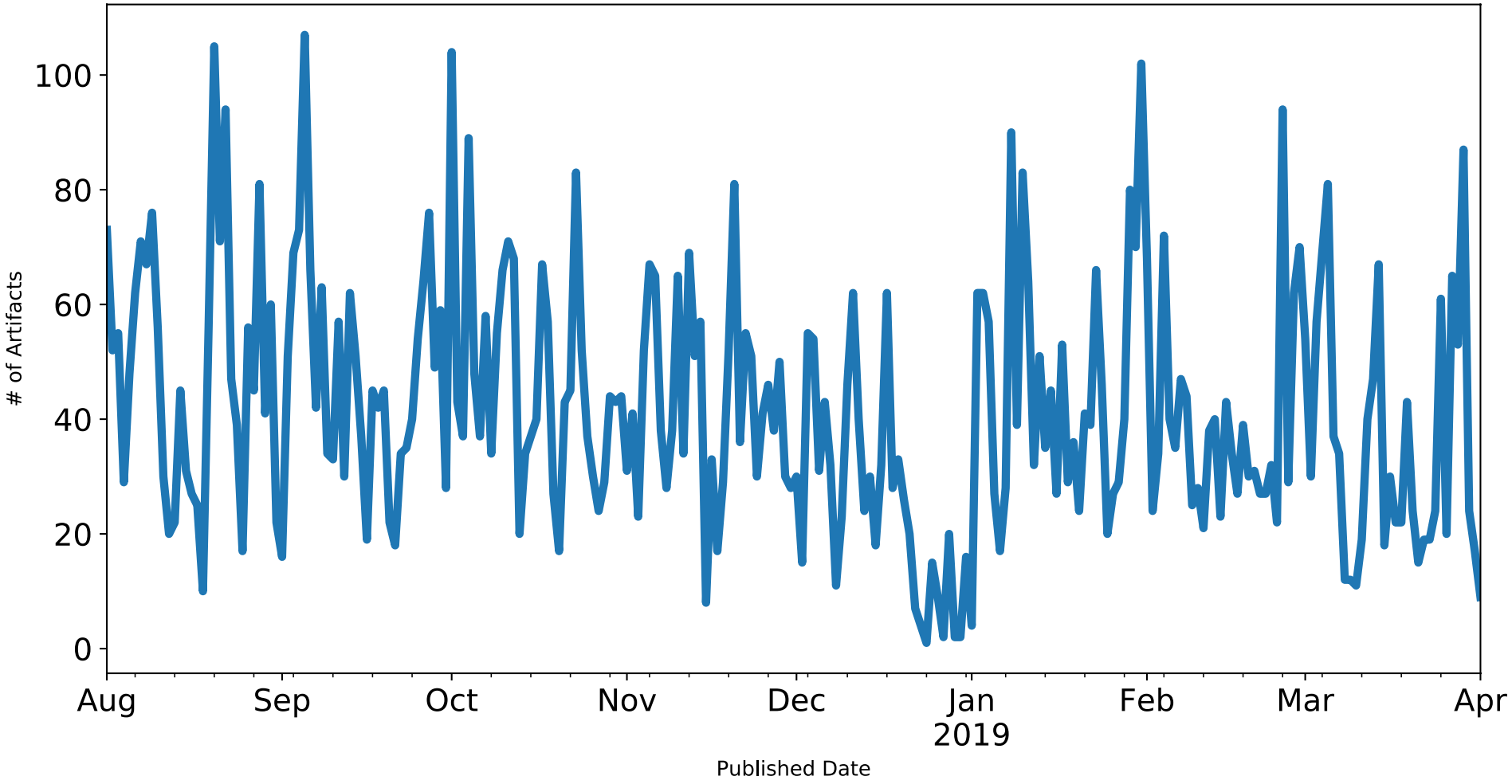
Artifact Frequency



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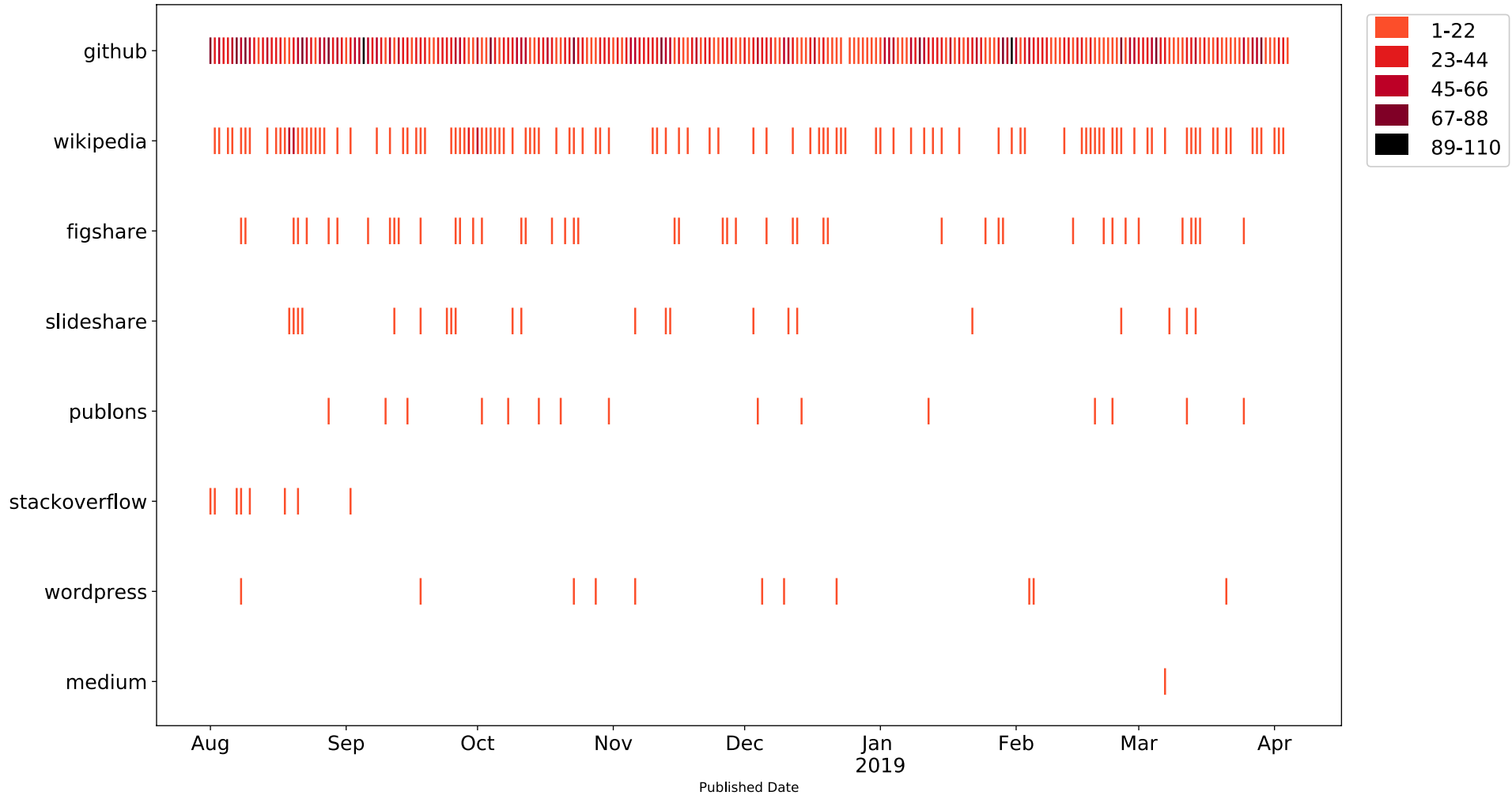
Artifact Frequency per Portal



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Summary

- The Scholarly Orphans project explores an institution-driven approach to capture scholarly artifacts deposited in web portals
    - Artifacts out of scope of existing archival approaches such as LOCKSS, Portico, web archives
    - Institutions have a long shelf life, should be interested in collecting these artifacts, and have feasible scale for identity/ artifact discovery
- Prototype at myresearch.institute illustrates feasibility, opportunities, and challenges of this institutional perspective

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What Our Researchers Say…

“Ha, this is awesome! Thanks for letting me know - carry on as usual, and feel free to monitor away. I'll try not to change my behaviour or anything now with this new knowledge :)”

“This is fine, since everything you are capturing is public to start with. I also wonder if you know about Software Heritage?”

“I’m very comfortable with being part of this (very important) research project”

“I'm cool with it :-)”

“Interesting project! I’m happy to participate.”
“One more thing, is it possible to get a copy of the URI-Rs that you guys detected so that I can feed them into an archive of my choice?...”

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Scholarly Orphans – Pipeline

- 10,187 unique artifacts tracked, captured, and archived since 08/01/2018
- 41MB event database
- 61GB of WARC files
- 2.3GB of web archive index

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Scholarly Orphans – Pipeline

- Capture process, post tracking
  - Within 9 minutes 50% of artifacts captured
  - Within 1 hour 21 minutes 75% of artifacts captured

- Archiver process, post capture
  - Within 10 minutes 50% of artifacts archived
  - Within 57 minutes 75% of artifacts archived

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